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**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
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I **oppose** the proposed HHS regulation to implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act by demanding that all health plans pay for contraceptives, sterilizations and education to use both. This is wrong and unconstitutional on at least three levels:

1. Drugs like FDA-approved Ella and Plan B can go beyond preventing pregnancy to actually destroying a developing baby. The Constitution and other laws of this land should protect life, not require taxpayers and plan participants to pay for it.
2. Health care should never include provisions for abortion unless the LIFE of the mother (not the convenience) is at risk. Children are not a disease to be eliminated, they are a blessing.
3. The HHS regulation mandates all insurance agencies must provide contraception at no cost to the patient. The cost is paid for by the insured and employers. The exemption for people of conscience is way too narrow: church agencies can only claim exemption if it primarily serves people of its own faith, among other requirements. First, churches should serve anyone in need, regardless of their beliefs, so that would eliminate any exemptions. Second, anyone with a conscience would be offended if they knew their insurance premiums were being used to destroy life. Our Constitution protects freedom of association. Instead, I recommend that Congress pass the bipartisan **“Respect for Rights of Conscience Act of 2011,”** sponsored by Reps. Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) and Dan Boren (D-OK), which would protect the conscience rights of those who object to being forced to cover, provide, or pay for such drugs.

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